

LaTourette	Pence	Shays
Lewis (CA)	Peterson (PA)	Shimkus
Lewis (KY)	Petri	Shuster
Linder	Pickering	Simpson
LoBiondo	Pitts	Smith (NE)
Lucas	Platts	Smith (NJ)
Lungren, Daniel E.	Poe	Smith (TX)
	Porter	Souder
Manzullo	Price (GA)	Stearns
Marchant	Pryce (OH)	Sullivan
McCaul (TX)	Putnam	Terry
McCotter	Radanovich	Thornberry
McCrery	Ramstad	Tiahrt
McHenry	Regula	Tiberi
McHugh	Rehberg	Turner
McKeon	Reichert	Upton
McMorris	Renzi	Walberg
Rodgers	Reynolds	Walden (OR)
Mica	Rogers (AL)	Walsh (NY)
Miller (FL)	Rogers (MI)	Wamp
Miller (MI)	Rohrabacher	Weldon (FL)
Miller, Gary	Ros-Lehtinen	Weller
Mitchell	Roskam	Westmoreland
Moran (KS)	Royce	Whitfield
Murphy, Tim	Ryan (WI)	Wicker
Musgrave	Sali	Wilson (NM)
Myrick	Saxton	Wilson (SC)
Neugebauer	Schmidt	Wolf
Nunes	Sensenbrenner	Young (AK)
Paul	Sessions	Young (FL)
Pearce	Shadegg	

## NOT VOTING—13

Bean	Davis, Jo Ann	Rogers (KY)
Boucher	Johnson, Sam	Rothman
Braley (IA)	Mack	Tancredo
Clarke	Marshall	
Culberson	McCarthy (CA)	

□ 1210

Mr. EHLERS changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the question of consideration was decided in the affirmative.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 782, I was questioning former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld during a hearing investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of Corporal Pat Tillman, in the Committee on Government Oversight and Reform, and was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

I yield myself such time as I may consume.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. CASTOR. I also ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 594.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, House Resolution 594 provides for consideration of H.R. 3162, the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act of 2007.

The rule provides 2 hours of general debate in the House, with 1 hour controlled by the Committee on Ways and

Means and 1 hour controlled by the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI.

The rule makes in order the Ways and Means Committee substitute, modified by an amendment printed in the Rules Committee report. That amendment reflects a compromise between the committees of jurisdiction. The rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Madam Speaker, in our great country today, the wealthiest country in the world, parents still struggle to ensure that their children lead healthy lives.

Is there anything more important, after the birth of your child, than visits to the pediatrician and the care of devoted nurses? And as your baby grows, is there anything more fundamental than regular checkups and physicals?

Many dedicated doctors and nurses are on call at all hours when, God forbid, something goes wrong or your child is sick. Fortunately, in America today, many hardworking families have regular and affordable health care through the State Children's Health Insurance Program, what we called SCHIP; and today the Congress will vote to extend and improve children's health insurance for another 5 years.

Regular, accessible and affordable health care puts children on a path to success in life. A healthy child is a healthy student. A healthy child means more productive parents who do not miss work. Healthy students become productive adults. They succeed in life and eventually make America stronger.

Every parent and grandparent in America today understands the importance of our debate and our fight to ensure that children can see a doctor or a nurse and have access to affordable health care.

Despite all that we understand about the importance of healthy kids and early preventative care, health insurance and those all-important visits to the doctor are all too expensive and out of reach for over 11 million children in America.

□ 1215

Uninsured children are five times less likely than insured kids to have a primary care doctor or to have visited a doctor or a dentist in the past 2 years. This lack of access in medical attention harms that child, the family, the community back home and ultimately this great country.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to stand up and fight for these families and America's children by passing this rule and supporting the House Children's Health Insurance Reauthorization bill, the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act, or the CHAMP Act.

I am proud to say that the precursor to SCHIP originated in the 1990s as a novel plan by State leaders in my home

State of Florida. These innovators understood the link between healthy kids and success in school. They helped parents with direct information on access to affordable health care for their kids.

President Clinton and the Congress were so impressed by what the State of Florida was doing for children's health care that they took the Florida KidCare blueprint and fashioned a national program. It has enjoyed national success and bipartisan support ever since. Indeed, the overwhelming majority of Governors in this country support the reauthorization of SCHIP.

Madam Speaker, I include for the RECORD a letter of support from Republican Governor of Florida, Charlie Crist.

STATE OF FLORIDA,  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,  
Tallahassee, FL, August 1, 2007.

Hon. KATHERINE CASTOR,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN CASTOR: Thank you for your continued leadership on the reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). As you know, renewing this program is critical to the approximately two million children and families currently eligible for SCHIP in our State.

As Governor, I too want to ensure that low-income children have access to quality health insurance, and commend the Florida Delegation for working so hard over the past several months to ensure that this important program is reauthorized before it expires on September 30, 2007.

The proposals of the Senate Finance and House Energy & Commerce Committees have positive components that I believe will make this program stronger. However, as Congress progresses toward a final product, I wanted to bring your attention to the core principles that I believe are essential to ensuring SCHIP remains dedicated to its original intent.

Children Should Be the Cornerstone of SCHIP Funding; States Need the Flexibility to Dispense SCHIP Funding Over Multiple Years; Federal SCHIP Funding Should Be Based on Projected Spending and Allow for Population Growth; States Need the Flexibility and Funding to Conduct Additional Outreach Activities.

Thank you again for your commitment to the KidCare program and to Florida's children and families. I look forward to working together to ensure that the thousands of eligible children in our state receive the highest quality benefits through this important healthcare program.

Sincerely,

CHARLIE CRIST,  
Governor.

Despite the great success across the country, 11 million children in the United States remain uninsured. Almost 7 million of them are eligible but not enrolled in the State-Federal children's health care program. Two-thirds come from working families in which one or both parents are working but were not offered employer-based health insurance or were unable to afford it. Most of these families are taking home under \$40,000 per year. In my home State of Florida alone, over 700,000 children remain uninsured.

A few months ago, I ran into a high school friend of mine, Mia Dorton, and she explained how important the Children's Health Insurance Program had